

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend claims 1, 13, and 14 as set forth below.

Please cancel claims 4 and 5.

A complete listing of all claims in this application is set forth below.

1. (currently amended) A modular prosthesis, comprising:

a neck member having a tapered neck body, a head-receiving support member, and a tapered post, said neck member defining a terminal distal end;

a sleeve component having a first elongated tapered bore, said tapered neck body being received within said first elongated tapered bore so as to taper lock said sleeve component to said neck member;

a stem member having a second elongated tapered bore, said stem member configured to be implanted into a medullary canal of a bone; and

a head member defining a coupler bore, said head-receiving support member of said neck member being received within said coupler bore,

wherein said sleeve component is located completely outside of said coupler bore of said head member,

wherein said tapered post of said neck member is received within said second elongated tapered bore of said stem member so as to taper lock said neck member to said stem member, and

wherein said stem member is located completely outside of said first elongated tapered bore, and

wherein said terminal distal end of said neck member is located within an interior space of said stem member.

Claim 2 (canceled).

Claim 3 (canceled).

Claim 4 (canceled).

Claim 5 (canceled).

6. (previously presented) The modular prosthesis of claim 1, wherein:
said stem member has a post-receiving opening defined therein,
said second elongated tapered bore defines a distal end,
said second elongated tapered bore extends between said post-receiving
opening and said distal end, and
said second elongated tapered bore is continuously tapered from said
post-receiving opening to said distal end.

7. (original) The modular prosthesis of claim 6, wherein:

said sleeve component has defined therein a proximal opening and a distal opening,

said first elongated tapered bore extends between said proximal opening and said distal opening, and

said first elongated tapered bore is continuously tapered from said proximal opening to said distal opening.

8. (original) The modular prosthesis of claim 1, wherein:

said tapered post has a first end and second end, and

said tapered post is continuously tapered from said first end to said second end.

9. (previously presented) The modular prosthesis of claim 8, wherein:

said tapered post has a first cross sectional diameter adjacent to said first end,

said tapered post has a second cross sectional diameter adjacent to said second end, and

said first cross sectional diameter is greater than said second cross sectional diameter.

10. (previously presented) The modular prosthesis of claim 1, wherein

said tapered post is spaced apart from said tapered neck body.

11. (previously presented) The modular prosthesis of claim 10, wherein said neck member further has a transition portion interposed between said tapered post and said tapered neck body.

12. (previously presented) The modular prosthesis of claim 1, wherein said tapered post is spaced apart from said sleeve component.

13. (currently amended) The modular prosthesis of ~~claim 4~~, claim 1, wherein:

~~said neck member further has a head-receiving support member, and~~

said tapered neck body is interposed between said tapered post and said head-receiving support member.

14. (currently amended) A modular prosthesis, comprising:

a neck member having (i) a head-receiving portion, (ii) a tapered neck body connected to said head-receiving portion, (iii) a transition portion having a first end connected to said tapered neck body and a second end, and (iv) a tapered post connected to said second end of said transition portion;

a head defining a coupler bore, secured to said head-receiving portion of said neck member being positioned within said coupler bore;

a sleeve component having a first elongated tapered bore, said tapered neck body being received within said first elongated tapered bore so as to taper lock said sleeve component to said neck member; and

a stem member having a second elongated tapered bore, said stem member configured to be implanted into a medullary canal of a bone,

wherein said tapered post of said neck member is received within said second elongated tapered bore of said stem member so as to taper lock said neck member to said stem member, and

wherein no portion of said stem member is located within said first elongated tapered bore,

wherein said sleeve component is located completely outside of said coupler bore of said head member, and

wherein a terminal distal end of said neck member is located within an interior space of said stem member.

15. (previously presented) The modular prosthesis of claim 14, wherein:
said stem member has a post-receiving opening defined therein,
said second elongated tapered bore defines a distal end,
said second elongated tapered bore extends between said post-receiving opening and said distal end, and
said second elongated tapered bore is continuously tapered from said post-receiving opening to said distal end.

16. (previously presented) The modular prosthesis of claim 15, wherein:
said sleeve component has defined therein a proximal opening and a distal opening,
said first elongated tapered bore extends between said proximal opening and said distal opening, and
said first elongated tapered bore is continuously tapered from said proximal opening to said distal opening.

17. (previously presented) The modular prosthesis of claim 14, wherein:
said tapered post has a first end and second end, and
said tapered post is continuously tapered from said first end to said second end.

18. (previously presented) The modular prosthesis of claim 17, wherein:
said tapered post has a first cross sectional diameter adjacent to said first
end,

said tapered post has a second cross sectional diameter adjacent to said
second end, and

said first cross sectional diameter is greater than said second cross
sectional diameter.

19. (previously presented) The modular prosthesis of claim 14, wherein
said tapered post is spaced apart from said tapered neck body.

20. (previously presented) The modular prosthesis of claim 14, wherein
said tapered post is spaced apart from said sleeve component.